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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Begaye 2/14/03 HB 527

SHORT TITLE: Farmington Agricultural Science Center SB _____

ANALYST: L. Baca

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY03	FY04	FY03	FY04		
	\$500.0			Recurring	GF

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation for New Mexico State University in the General Appropriation Act

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Responses Received From

Commission on Higher Education (CHE)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 527 appropriates \$500.0 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University (NMSU) to support the continued operation of the Farmington Agricultural Science Center of the NMSU Agricultural Experiment Center.

Significant Issues

A request for this expansion project was not included in NMSU's budget request to the NMSU Board of Regents, and thus was not included in the list of priority projects submitted by NMSU to the Commission on Higher Education for review

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$500.0 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year shall revert to the general fund.

The total operating budget for AES for fiscal year 2003 is \$21, 463.9 and includes \$11,413.9 from the general fund, \$1,150.0 in other state funds, and \$8,650.0 in federal funds. The CHE general fund recommendation for the base budget for continued operations of the AES for fiscal year 2004 is \$11,834.6.

AMENDMENTS

The CHE suggests the following language for all new recurring higher education programs and expansion of current programs (assuming that funding will continue beyond 2003-2004):

“The institution receiving the appropriation in this bill shall submit a program evaluation to the Legislative Finance Committee and the Commission on Higher Education by June 30, 2005 detailing the benefits to the State of New Mexico from having this program implemented for a three- year period.”

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS

1. If funds for the AES are already in the appropriation bill, is this amount really necessary?
2. What will the additional funds enable AES to do?

LRB/njw